

## Time of Day Watering Restrictions

### ■ Why time of day restrictions?

*Watering Efficiency:* Rates of evaporation due to temperature, wind, and sunlight intensity are generally highest from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., June through September. By watering outside of the restricted time period, more water will go to your landscaping grass, plants, and trees, and less will be lost to the atmosphere because of evaporation.

### ■ What is hand watering?

Hand watering is standing in your yard with your water hose or watering can. Hose-connected sprinklers are not allowed during the restricted period. Leaving an open-ended hose running is also not allowed during the restricted period.

## Rain and Freeze Sensors

### ■ How much water will rain sensors save?


Studies in similar climates and local experience indicate that in north Texas rain sensors should reduce the amount of water used for lawn irrigation by about 25%. Savings like this will pay back sensor equipment and installation costs in as little time as a year, depending on the size of the irrigation system.

### ■ Where is the list of approved sensors published?

Visit our web site, [www.ci.arlington.tx.us/water](http://www.ci.arlington.tx.us/water), or contact us by email, phone, or mail to obtain a list.

### ■ Do rain and freeze sensors need to be separate units, or will a combination unit work?

Combination rain and freeze units are acceptable and convenient, and may be purchased at a hardware store if you plan to install them yourself. Contact a landscape irrigator for current installation prices.



**ALERT** The City of Arlington Water Utilities issued an Excessive Demand Alert in November 2005. Months of dry weather caused water demands to exceed more than 25% of the system's anticipated monthly demands. The City of Arlington Water Utilities is not experiencing a critical shortage, but asks residents to follow conservation measures. Some tips are as follows:

## Water Conservation Measures

### Outdoors

- Wash your car with a bucket of soapy water.
- Clean driveways with a broom instead of a water hose.
- Put mulch around plants, bushes and trees to help the soil retain moisture.
- Adjust the timer on automatic sprinklers according to seasonal water demands.
- Install a rain/freeze sensor which shuts off the irrigation system in wet or freezing conditions.
- Avoid watering on windy days.
- Avoid watering your lawn between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. (*mandatory between June 1 and September 30.*)
- Landscape your yard with native and drought tolerant grass and plants.

### Indoors

- Don't use the toilet as a trash can.
- Check all water line connections, faucets and commodes for leaks.
- Take a quick shower instead of a bath.
- Turn water off when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Load both dishwasher and washing machine to capacity before turning it on.
- When purchasing new appliances, select a brand with a high efficiency rating.

### Winterizing to Conserve Water

- Cover/insulate all outdoor spigot and pipes.
- Insulate hot water pipes.
- Protect sprinkler systems from freezing. Shut off main valve or controller timer.
- Adjust watering schedule: water a winter lawn every fifth day; water dormant grass every three weeks.
- Check for and repair leaks.

# Lawn and Landscape Irrigation Requirements

New lawn and landscape irrigation requirements became effective by ordinance on March 4, 2005, as part of our effort to meet the requirements of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Texas Water Development Board in planning for our growing community's water supply needs.

Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with these requirements. Besides conserving water, following these requirements will lower your watering costs while maintaining healthy lawns and beautiful landscapes.

## Summary of Requirements

### 1. Time of Day Watering Restrictions

June 1 - September 30, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
NO lawn or landscaping watering or irrigating is permitted, unless hand watering or using soaker hoses.

### 2. Include rain and freeze sensors on all irrigation systems installed on or after March 4, 2005.

### 3. By March 4, 2007, equip all commercial and apartment irrigation systems installed before March 4, 2005 with rain and freeze sensors.

## To learn more about conservation:

Visit [www.ci.arlington.tx.us/water](http://www.ci.arlington.tx.us/water) for additional information, water conservation tips, and other helpful links. You may also call, mail or email us at the following contacts:

Arlington Water Utilities

P.O. Box 90020

Arlington, TX 76004-3020

**Email:** [water@ci.arlington.tx.us](mailto:water@ci.arlington.tx.us);

**Phone:** 817-275-5931

*Si necesita usted hablar con un representante en Español, por favor llame al 817-275-5931.*

## Conservation Ordinance Details

The following is quoted from the Water Chapter of the City Code, as authorized in Ordinance 05-015:

### Watering Restrictions

*Except for hand watering and the use of soaker hoses, it shall be unlawful for any person to irrigate, water, or cause or permit the irrigation or watering of any lawn or landscape located on premises owned, leased, or managed by that person between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. during the period from June 1 through September 30 of any year.*

### Irrigation System Rain and Freeze Sensors

- 1. Any irrigation system installed within the City on or after March 4, 2005 must be equipped with rain and freeze sensors in number and type established and published by the Director of Utilities.*
- 2. Any [commercial and apartment] irrigation system installed before March 4, 2005 may not be operated after March 4, 2007 without being equipped with rain and freeze sensors in number and type established and published by the Director of Utilities. This requirement does not apply to a single family residential or duplex property, or an individually-metered townhome or condominium unit.*

Research shows lawns will survive and stay green with watering to a 1" depth every 5 to 7 days during the summer and every 15 to 20 days during the winter (dormant season).